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November 4, 1935

A Science Service Feature

? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Mailed October 28, 1935

CLIMBING TO A WEATHER STATION

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A good many of the weather stations and observatories maintained on high mountains in different parts of the world are by no means easy of access, even in favorable weather. Some can be reached only by real feats of mountaineering. Thus the visitor to the Vallot Observatory, on the upper slope of Mont Blanc, has a long, stiff climb to get there and must hire a guide, whose services cost 400 francs. This weather station should not be confused with the astronomical observatory that once stood on the summit but was eventually engulfed in the snow and abandoned.

The weather observatory on the top of Mount Washington, the highest point of land in New England, can be visited without exertion in summer; but in winter, after the cog railway stops running, it is often unattainable, over the snow-blocked roads, except by the most intrepid climbers. Its work, however, goes on the year around, at a spot that beats, for storminess, any other known on this continent.

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